



PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 08203.0033

JRW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Frank BONADIO et al.) Group Art Unit: 3764
Application No.: 10/736,234) Examiner: Unknown
Filed: December 16, 2003) Confirmation No.: 3142
For: SURGICAL DEVICE)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08. To the best of the undersigned's knowledge, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached Form PTO/SB/08.

Copies of the listed foreign patent documents are attached.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies the documents as prior art

against any claims in the application and Applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Patent Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

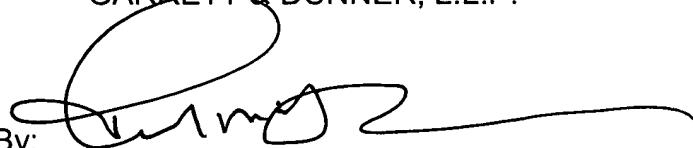
Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: January 3, 2007

By: 

Roland G. McAndrews
Reg. No. 41,450

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JAN 03 2007

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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Application Number	10/736,234
Filing Date	December 16, 2003
First Named Inventor	Frank Bonadio
Art Unit	3764
Examiner Name	Unknown

Attorney Docket Number

08203.0033



U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		2,853,075	10/1958	Hoffman	
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IDS Form PTO/SB/08: Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				<i>Application Number</i>	10/736,234
(Use as many sheets as necessary)				<i>Filing Date</i>	December 16, 2003
				<i>First Named Inventor</i>	Frank Bonadio
				<i>Art Unit</i>	3764
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Note: Copies of the U.S. Patent Documents are not Required in IDS filed after October 21, 2004

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.